

Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application:

1. (Original) A method of providing an arbitrary sound as an RBT (RingBack Tone) in a communication network, comprising: a first step, conducted by an HLR (Home Location Register), of furnishing a call-originating exchanger with information on whether or not an RBT is to be replaced for a terminal through a response to a location request message received from the call-originating exchanger that sends the location request message to the HLR when a call connection is requested to the terminal; a second step, conducted by the call-originating exchanger, of requesting a trunk connection to a call-terminating exchanger based on the response, and further requesting another trunk connection to a sound providing means based on the information with reference to preset routing information to the sound providing means while furnishing the sound providing means with information to identify the terminal; and a third step, conducted by the sound providing means, of selecting an RBT-replacing sound based on the terminal identifying information, and providing the selected RBT-replacing sound for a caller through the call-originating exchanger the trunk connection is made to.

2. (Original) A method of providing an arbitrary sound as an RBT (RingBack Tone) in a communication network, comprising: a first step, conducted by an HLR (Home Location Register), of furnishing an exchanger with information on whether or not an RBT is to be replaced for a terminal when location of the terminal is registered through the exchanger; a second step, conducted by the exchanger when a call to the terminal is recognized, of requesting a trunk connection to a sound providing means based on the information with reference to preset routing information to the sound providing means while furnishing the sound providing means with information to identify the terminal; and a third step, conducted by the

sound providing means, of selecting an RBT-replacing sound based on the terminal identifying information, and providing the selected RBT-replacing sound for a caller through the exchanger the trunk connection is made to.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the routing information specifies a routing address of a sound providing means allocated to a terminal.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the routing information allocates respective head numbers of subscribers to routing addresses of a plurality of sound providing means.

5. (Original) A method of providing an arbitrary sound as an RBT (RingBack Tone) in a communication network, comprising: a first step, conducted by an HLR (Home Location Register), of searching for a sound code assigned to a terminal, if a location request message is received from a call-originating exchanger when a call connection is requested to the terminal, and sending the call-originating exchanger the found sound code through a response message to the location request message; and a second step, conducted by the call-originating exchanger, of requesting a trunk connection to a call-terminating exchanger based on the response message, and providing a caller with an RBT-replacing sound associated with the found sound code.

6. (Original) A method of providing an arbitrary sound as an RBT (RingBack Tone) in a communication network, comprising: a first step, conducted by an HLR (Home Location Register), of searching for a sound code assigned to a terminal, if a location request message is received from a call-originating exchanger when a call connection is requested to the terminal, and sending a routing information request message including the found sound code to a call-

terminating exchanger; a second step, conducted by the HLR, of sending the call-originating exchanger routing information received, in response to the routing information request message, from the call-terminating exchanger; and a third step, conducted by the call-terminating exchanger, of transmitting an RBT-replacing sound associated with the found code to a caller through a trunk connection when the call-originating exchanger makes the trunk connection to the call-terminating exchanger based on the routing information.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein a server separated from the HLR has a subscriber-code table where subscriber numbers are associated with sound codes individually, and the HLR searches for the sound code with the aid of the server.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the HLR communicates with the server based on internet protocol in the code searching operation.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the routing information specifies a routing address of a sound providing means allocated to a terminal.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein a server separated from the HLR has a subscriber-code table where subscriber numbers are associated with sound codes individually, and the HLR searches for the sound code with the aid of the server.